

**SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY**

March 31, 1971

**FOR: AMBASSADOR BUNKER**

**FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER (S)**

To further clarify his personal view on the Calley conviction, the President has asked that I query you through this channel as to what impact, if any, commutation of the sentence by the President might have in South Vietnam. The President has not repeat not decided on such a course of action but wished to be armed with your best judgment with respect to South Vietnamese attitudes on the Calley case. I will need your answer by the opening of business tomorrow Pacific time.

**Best personal regards.**

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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**HAK:AMH:mlh:typed 3/31/71**